

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

IDS

The allowance of claims 1 and 3-17 is noted with appreciation. However, as will noted, the Applicants have submitted an IDS on January 19, 2007 which is after the date of issuance of this instant Office Action.

Claim Amendments

In light of the above-mentioned EP Search Report, the Applicants have opted to further clarify the claimed subject matter and to obviate minor syntactical oversights that have been noted. No new matter is introduced by the amendments made in this response. Support therefore can be found in the originally filed specification. For example, the presence of small amounts of contaminants in TAAOH as being removed via ion exchange is disclosed in paragraphs [0025] - [0027]. Paragraph [0042] provides further support for the amendment which calls for removal of the impurities in the TAAOH. Exemplary merits which are derived using the claimed subject matter are, by way of example, discussed at paragraphs [0127] - [0128].

Support for the amendments to claims 8 and 9 which corrects SO₂ to SiO₂, is found in paragraph [0015].

Independent claim 2 has, of course, been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph via the deletion of the expression "according to the necessity."

New claims 18-32, which are the same as claims 3-17, but

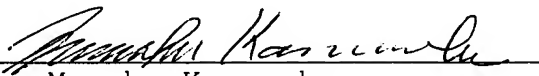
depend directly or indirectly from claim 2, have been added.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as they have been amended remain allowable over the art of record. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of all claims pending in this application are courteously solicited.

One month extension of time is hereby requested. Credit card authorization form in the amount of \$720.00 is attached herewith for one month extension of time (\$120.00) and filing twelve dependent claims in excess of twenty (\$600.00).

Respectfully submitted,

by 
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